

~~REPLACED BY~~  
~~ART 54(3)(a)~~  
What is claimed is:

1. A composition comprising epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and lactoferrin.
2. A composition as in claim 1 comprising additionally vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid.
- 5 3. A composition comprising epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG), vitamin E and a carotenoid.
4. A composition as in any one of claims 1-3 comprising epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) in a concentration of from about 0.001 to about 3 %(w/w) and lactoferrin in a concentration of from about 0.002 to 3 % (w/w).
5. A composition as in any one of claims 1 to 5 comprising vitamin C in a concentration of  
10 from about 30 to about 6000 mg/kg, vitamin E in a concentration of from about 20 to about 450 IU/kg and a carotenoid in a concentration of from about 2 to about 315 mg/kg, based on the total weight of the composition.
6. A composition as in any of claims 1 to 5 which is a pet food, particularly for dogs or cats.
- 15 7. The use of a composition of any one of claims 1 to 3 in the manufacture of a pet food, particularly for dogs or cats, for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism.
8. The use as in claim 7 of a combination of EGCG and lactoferrin.
- 20 9. The use as in claim 7 of a combination of EGCG, lactoferrin, vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid.
10. The use as in claim 7 of a combination of EGCG, vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid.
- 25 11. The use of a composition or a pet food of any one of claims 1 to 6 for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal.